

DESERT AIRMAN

Vol. 64 Issue 3

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

Friday, Jan. 21, 2005



Lt. Gen. Rosa speaks to OG

By Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore
355th Wing Public Affairs

Blue Air Force service dress, mess dress and evening gowns filled the lobby at the Hilton Saturday evening, awaiting the chime which would begin the 355th Operations Group Dining-out festivities for Airmen, their spouses and special guests.

The evening, themed "Train, Deploy and Fight," featured Lt. Gen. John Rosa, U.S. Air Force Academy superintendent, as the event guest of honor and speaker.

Other distinguished guests included Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander; Mike Harris, DM-50 president; Dorothy Finley, DM-50 member and retired Col. Charles Niblett, Air Force Association member, in addition to vari-



Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce

Lt. Gen. John Rosa, U.S. Air Force Academy superintendent, presents Col. Kenneth Carlson, 357th Fighter Squadron commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Franklin, 355th Operations Group superintendent, with the Thompson Trophy at the 355th OG Dining-out. The trophy is presented to the annual Overall Top Gun squadron.

See **Rosa**, Page 6

BTES office captures ACC Nathan Altschuler Award

By Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore
355th Wing Public Affairs

The 355th Wing Base Training and Education Services office was selected from 17 installations as Air Combat Command 2004 Nathan Altschuler Award For Excellence in Education winner Jan. 10.

This award honors the 355th Wing BTES office as being the best in ACC, said Phil King, BTES flight chief.

The BTES office will now compete for the title of best in Air Force, striving to once again bring the Air Force level award back to Davis-Monthan.

"We won both the headquarters ACC and U.S. Air Force awards in 2002," Mr. King said.

Achieving this award has taken a great deal of dedication to develop-

ing and nurturing the educational needs of 32,600 servicemen and women, dependents, retirees and civilians by the BTES staff.

The office is manned by Mr. King, Nancy Lucas and Danny Adkins, both education technicians, Norma White and Rafael Maldondo, both counselors and Claudia Rodriguez, Martin Rodriguez and Rosanne Green, all contractors.

"I am grateful for my staff who knows the meaning of teamwork, sacrifice and dedication," Mr. King said. "They are extraordinary people. We could not accomplish this, or what we do on a daily basis, without being a team."

Many changes over the last year have affected the work load of the BTES office.

This award serves as recognition

for the hard work, can-do attitude and the extra hours members of the BTES office put in above and beyond their required workload, Mr. King said.

"The changes have actually made our job harder," Mr. King said. "When the Air Force went to 100 percent tuition assistance we experienced a 69.9 percent increase in applications. In numbers this means we went from 3,380 TA applications in fiscal 2003 to 11,243 in fiscal 2004. This was accomplished with no additional manning but by working additional hours. Our average daily visitor count went from 44 to 62."

Another change to help customers is the Air Force Virtual Education Web site offering a one stop shopping experience on educational matters.

"It's a great site," Mr. King said.

"However, we answer the questions left unanswered since our customers can not deal with a person on the Web site."

In addition, improvements in the Community College of the Air Force degree program helps the BTES office provides quick service to customers via a Web Progress Report.

"In a matter of seconds we can look up an individual's official records and tell them their degree status with CCAF," Mr. King said.

By using these resources and working together, the office graduated the largest spring CCAF class in its history in 2004.

For more information about service provided by the BTES office, call 228-4815. To visit the Air Force Virtual Education Web site, go to <https://afvec.langley.af.mil/afvec/>.

The January Davis-Monthan Air Force Base timeline in hours as of Jan. 18

Squadron	Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Squadron	Aircraft	Goal	Flown
41st ECS	EC-130	206.6	13.8	162nd FW	Various	171.0	131.4
43rd ECS	EC-130	205.0	88.0	354th FS	A-10	852.4	464.0
55th RQS	HH-60	196.9	127.7	357th FS	A-10	726.0	316.8
79th RQS	C-130	137.0	113.6	358th FS	A-10	724.0	327.0

Commissary closure

The Davis-Monthan Commissary will close Sunday at 5 p.m. for a floor reset. It will reopen Wednesday at 9 a.m. For information on the new floor layout visit the "Locations" link at www.commissaries.com.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

Senior Airman Nalani Moenaa, 355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, and Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, review Colonel Spencer's paperwork for the day as part of the Airman Shadow Program.

Why is the traffic backed up?

Concern: I was wondering why the traffic at the gates has been so busy lately. Do you know how long this is expected to be a problem? Is there anything anyone can do to help ease the traffic problems?

Response: Thank you for your concern.

We recently closed the Swan Gate for reconstruction and to implement the anti-terrorism

measures you see in place at the Craycroft Gate.

The construction will include a realignment to Swan Road between Golf Links Road and the entry gate similar to what was done at the Craycroft Gate last winter. It will also include new street lighting, new landscaping and a new base entry sign.

Additionally, an overhead canopy will be constructed over the inbound lanes at the entry guard gate house. All of this construction would take significantly longer to complete and cost significantly more if the gate stayed open during construction. If all goes as planned, the gate will reopen in March.

The previous straight-line entry into the base could allow potential intruders to enter at a high rate of speed without stopping at the entry gate. By realigning the entrance road into the base, vehicles have to slow down to negotiate the curve, giving the security forces more time to react.

If necessary, security forces will be able to employ the pop-up barriers on the base side of the gate to prevent intruders from gaining further access.

If you are coming to the installation for reasons other than to work, consider delaying your visit until mid-morning or mid-afternoon. If you work on base, consider coordinating with your supervisor about the possibility of adjusting your schedule. Lunch time is another traffic challenge, so consider spending your lunch hour

on base to minimize heavy traffic at the gate between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Having your identification card ready will also decrease the waiting time.

Again, thank you for your concern. I look forward to the positive changes coming to the Swan Gate this spring.

Base decals: When and where?

Concern: I've heard some conflicting information on when I need my base decals updated. Can you tell me when they are due and where to go?

Response: All 2004 decals must be replaced by Jan. 31. New decals are available at the Craycroft Road Visitor's Center Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Feb. 28. They are also available at pass and registration Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

When can I get a flu shot?

Concern: I was wondering who can get flu vaccinations. I was also wondering where people can go to get them?

Response: We recently changed who is eligible for flu vaccinations. Originally, high-risk patients who received a notice in the mail or children ages six to 23 months received flu vaccinations. Now, in addition to those individuals, all active-duty servicemembers must get their flu shots at the immunizations clinic.

Have a concern?

Supporting each other and working together to provide the best programs and services is a goal for all D-M people. Ideas, suggestions, comments, concerns and kudos are important to make improvements. The best way to pass along a comment or to get an answer to a concern is to contact the agency chief or functional managers listed here. Still no solution? The Commander's Corner phone line is 228-4747. An e-mail can also be sent to: 355thWingCommandersCorner@dm.af.mil. Callers must leave their name, phone number and a message. They will receive a prompt reply in writing or by telephone. We will honor caller confidentiality, but sometimes we need to contact callers to gather additional information. If a concern is of general interest to the base populace, the response may be published in the *Desert Airman*. Anonymous calls may not be published.

Agency numbers

AAFES Agencies.....	228-3904	Inspector General.....	228-3558
Accounting and Finance.....	228-4964	Legal.....	228-6432
Chaplain.....	228-5411	Lodging.....	228-4845
Civil Engineering.....	228-3401	Military and Civilian Equal	
Clinic.....	228-2930	Opportunity Office.....	228-5509
Commissary.....	228-3116	Military Personnel.....	228-5689
Family Support.....	228-5690	Public Affairs.....	228-3204
Fitness and Sports Center.....	228-0022	Security Forces.....	228-6178
Haefner Fitness Center.....	228-3714	Services.....	228-5596
Housing Office.....	228-3687	Transportation.....	228-3584

Team D-M Mission Spotlight

The 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron directs all wing transportation, supply and logistics planning functions through a work force supporting A/OA-10s, HC-130s and HH-60Es combat-ready aircraft. The 355th LRS manages more than \$202 million in supplies and equipment, maintains \$42 million worth of vehicles and directs \$49 million in fuels support. They generate deployments, reception,

manage personnel and equipment for operational taskings.



Airman 1st Class Phillip Norton, 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron, takes a sample of Jet Petroleum-8 fuel with a R-11 refueling unit to ensure that the fuel remains in standards.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal

The 355th Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content for the *Desert Airman*. The editor will edit or rewrite material for clarity, brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for the *Desert Airman* can be made directly to the 355th Wing Public Affairs Office, Building 2300, Suite 2054, or through e-mail to desert.airman@dm.af.mil. The editor can be reached at 228-5092. Submission deadlines are Wednesday, nine days, prior to publication date. If submissions are publishable, they run based on space available and priority. Unless otherwise noted, photographs are Air Force photos. The *Desert Airman* uses information from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, Air Combat Command and other sources. All Advertising is handled by Aerotech News and Review, 456 East Ave. K-4, Suite 8, Lancaster, Calif. 93535; phone: (520) 623-9321; e-mail: aeroaz@earthlink.net.



Editorial Staff

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	Stephanie Ritter

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CRIME & Punishment

◆ An airman first class from the 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman and 14 days extra duty for a **technical order violation**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

◆ A staff sergeant from the 25th Operational Weather Squadron received a reduction to senior airman, 20 days extra duty and a reprimand for **failure to obtain proper leave authorization prior to taking leave**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.

◆ An airman first class from the 355th Security Forces Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman, restriction to base for 20 days and a reprimand for **drinking and possessing alcoholic beverages while under the age of 21**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.

◆ An airman from the 355th SFS received a suspended reduction to airman basic and restriction to base for 20 days for **drinking and possessing alcoholic beverages while under the age of 21**. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.

◆ A senior airman from the 355th Communications Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman first class, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand for **leaving duty early, releasing subordinates early without proper authorization and for making a false official statement**.

This was a violation of Article 107 of the UCMJ.

◆ An airman first class from the 41st Electronic Combat Squadron was **discharged** with an honorable characterization for **unsatisfactory performance - failure to progress in on-the-job training** supported by six letters of reprimand, one letter of admonishment and two-time failure of five-level Career Development Course exams.

◆ An airman basic from the 355th Civil Engineer Squadron was **discharged** with a general characterization for **drug abuse** supported by two Article 15s and one special court martial conviction.

(Editors note: Information courtesy of the 355th Wing Judge Advocate's Office. The same offense can result in different punishments for each offender. The offender's commander considers several factors when determining punishment, which include: the offender's service record, previous incidents, seriousness of the offense and impact on unit discipline, cohesion and morale.)

(Editors clarification: In the Jan. 13 edition of the Desert Airman it stated there were eight driving while intoxicated incidents on and off the installation and three underage drinking incidents. Of the eight DUI incidents, three were by active-duty Airmen and the other five were by civilians. Of the three underage drinking incidents one involved a civilian and the other incident involved two Airmen.)



Photo by Master Sgt. Brian Blangsted

Wilmot Lions Club thanks Davis-Monthan

(Left to right) Darryl Porter, Army Air Force Exchange Service, Darrell Hjerpe Jr., D.J. Hjerpe, Kevin Mulligan, all three members of the Wilmot Lions Club, and Col. Cesar Rodriguez, 355th Mission Support Group commander, gather after an awards presentation. Mr. Porter and Colonel Rodriguez were presented plaques and letters of appreciation from the Wilmot Lions Club for the base's service and support to the White Cane Program. The Lions work with a variety of programs to benefit those in need.

58

Davis-Monthan Airmen were saved from the consequences of driving under the influence by the Airmen Against Drunk Driving program since Dec. 31.

Call AADD at
850-2233

Friday and Saturday from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.
and Sunday from 4 p.m. to midnight

News Notes

Community food bank

Volunteers are needed to help at the Community Food Bank Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers must be willing to help with packing food boxes. This will take place at 3003 South Country Club Road, which is between Ajo and 36th Streets. To sign up call Kristen at 622-0525 extension 204.

Diagnostic imaging closure

The 355th Medical Group Diagnostic Imaging Element (radiology) will be closed through Jan. 21 due to power outages. The only services available will include mammography and ultrasound appointments. For more information, call 228-2870.

Road construction

Road construction will take place through Sunday on Herky Boulevard. East-bound traffic will use Herky Boulevard between Zapper Avenue and Falcon Street. West bound traffic will use a route south of B/127 identified by signs and barricades. For more information, call Eric Hazlett at 228-4244.

Water outage

A water outage is schedule to occur from 10 p.m. Jan. 31 through 1 a.m. Feb. 1. The outage will affect Buildings 5243, 5244, 5250, 5251, 5255, 5245, 5418, 5420, 5422, 5423, 5426 and 5430. The outage is required to repair a water line and replace a broken valve. For more information, call the 355th Civil Engineer Squadron customer service at 228-3171.

Town hall meeting

The next Davis-Monthan town hall meeting will take place March 2 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the D-M Community Center. Topics to be discussed include housing renovation and privatization, the updated yard citation policy and safety. Associated base agencies will be on hand to answer questions and concerns. The meeting is open to all family housing and dormitory residents. For more information, call Carol Mares at 228-6609.

Swan Gate closure

Swan Road Gate is closed for construction. The gate is scheduled to reopen in March.

Speakers Bureau

The base Speakers Bureau is in need of individuals willing to speak about their jobs and the military. For more information, contact Janie McLaury at 228-5091.

Terrorism history

Fifty-two American United States Embassy hostages were released Jan. 20, 1981 after 444 days in captivity following an agreement between the U.S. and Iran arranged by Algeria.

Dorm excellence

Commander presents best dormitory winners with community cash

By Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle
355th Wing Public Affairs

The winners of Davis-Monthan's Dormitory Excellence Program were announced Jan. 12 during a dormitory call at the base theater.

Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, and Chief Master Sergeant Keith Cobb, 355th Wing command chief, presented checks to the residents of the winning dormitories.

"The competition is an opportunity for Airmen living in the dorms to show what a great job they do in taking care of their living areas," Chief Cobb said.

All the D-M dorms were divided into two categories based on when they were built. Category one consisted of dorms built in the 1980s or later; Buildings 3219, 3508, 3509 and 4224. Category two consisted of dorms built in the 1950s; Buildings 3500, 4000 and 4102.

The newest dorms, Buildings 3610 and 3750 were not included in this contest but will become category three dorms for the next contest, said Master Sergeant Yvonne Macek, 355th Civil Engineering Squadron unaccompanied housing manager.

Dormitory residents in each category competed for \$2,500 in prize money. First place received \$2,000 and second place received \$500.

In category one Building 4224 received first place. In category two first place was shared by



Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce

Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, presents Airman Joycelyn Ashton, 355th Comptroller Squadron, with certificate for dormitory excellence.

two dorms, Buildings 3500 and 4102. Both dorms were awarded \$1,250.

The dorm councils will meet to vote on how they will spend their prize money. The residents of the winning dormitories said they have tentative plans for the prize money. Plans include new patio furniture for outside, poker tables, satellite television, surround sound and recliners for the day rooms.

The dormitory residents who had inspections in

their rooms and did not fail were all awarded a one-day pass, Sergeant Macek said. A three-day pass is handed out to the highest scoring room in each category.

The rooms that were inspected were picked at random, Sergeant Macek said. In future competitions, dorm residents will be asked to volunteer their rooms. First sergeants will also be allowed to nominate rooms for inspection.

"I have a chief (master sergeant) and a shirt (first sergeant) inspect the rooms and dorms, then the two highest scoring dorms per category are looked at by Colonel Spencer or Colonel (Michael) Isherwood (355th Wing vice commander) and Chief Cobb," said Sergeant Macek.

The program has several purposes, Sergeant Macek said. One is to get Airmen involved in the upkeep of the dorms. Another is to be a motivating tool to help dorm managers get involved in projects with the Airmen. It also lets the leadership see the pride the Airmen take in the dorms.

"It is so important that our young Airmen coming into this Air Force understand that this Air Force is a great family," Chief Cobb said. "As a family, we take care of each other, no matter what the circumstances. Our supervisors, first sergeants, chiefs and commanders should all be aware of their troops, where they live, and how they live. We should never stand still, we should always be continuously improving."

D-M's underage drinking, DUIs face new enemy

By Senior Airman Cat Casaigne
355th Wing Public Affairs

Davis-Monthan had 85 instances where Airmen chose to drive under the influence in fiscal 2004. Of that number, 34 percent of the DUIs were committed by Airmen who were underage. In an effort to reduce the number of DUIs and Airmen drinking underage, Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, has placed renewed emphasis on the Underage Drinking Task Force.

The UDTF will nurture and develop Airmen by educating the base populace on the health and financial risks of drinking and driving, as well as underage drinking.

"Underage drinking and driving under the influence have become an epidemic at Davis-Monthan," said Lt. Col. David Carrell, 355th Mission Support Group deputy commander and UDTF executive council chair. "So the goal of the UDTF is to reduce the

number of alcohol related incidents."

To reach its goal, the UDTF is made up of an executive council and three subcommittees, each with their own related agenda.

"The education committee is made up of wing safety, public affairs, family advocacy, a medical company grade officer and two underage Airmen," said Capt. Jennifer Jenkins, UDTF education committee chair. "We want to educate the base populace on driving under the influence and underage drinking by having one educational activity a month. Sometimes it's as simple as writing an article for the paper, other times we may be at your commander's calls, and throughout the year we will have other fun activities that hopefully will drive home the danger of driving under the influence."

The education committee works with the focus committee, which is made up of representatives of the staff judge advocate's office, housing,

the first sergeants' council, a squadron commander and an Airman under 21 years old.

"Starting in January, the UDTF will sponsor monthly activities to discourage alcohol use among underage Airmen," said Lt. Col. Cassie Barlow, 355th Mission Support Squadron commander and UDTF focus committee chair. "We will hold activities for Airmen living in the dorms to show them you can have fun without alcohol. Activities will include everything from sporting tournaments, a Super Bowl party, to skiing and hiking trips."

The prevention committee also works with the focus committee, which is made up of representatives from services, the wing dorm council, First Six, the chaplain's office, Airmen Against Drunk Driving and an Airman under 21 years old.

"The prevention subcommittee is responsible for identifying projects and activities that promote and pro-

vide alternatives to underage drinking," said Maj. Christopher Lavalley, 355th Services Squadron commander and prevention subcommittee chair. "The subcommittee provides information to the Focus Subcommittee to include in the 12-month strategic plan."

The three committees work both together and independently and report to the executive council. The executive council makes all final decisions and meets with all committees monthly to report on progress and new ideas.

"The bottom line is over the next year young Airmen are going to be seeing a lot of us," Colonel Carrell said. "The high rate of DUIs and Airmen drinking underage has to stop. Until it does, the UDTF is going to be in the dorms and at commanders' calls educating Airmen about DUIs. Hopefully we can start to prevent them and have a little fun while we do. One DUI or Airmen drinking underage is one too many."

Up-coming Underage Drinking Task Force events open to Desert Lightning Airmen

The Underage Drinking Task Force will host a Superbowl party Feb. 6 at the D-M Community Center. The doors will open at noon and the celebration will begin at 4 p.m. An eight-ball tournament will be held Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. To sign-up, see the dormitory's president.

VITA provides D-M community free tax assistance, filing

By Stephanie Ritter
355th Wing Public Affairs

Thursday, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program will begin offering free income tax assistance, preparation and electronic filing for the Davis-Monthan community.

The first two weeks of tax assistance will be reserved for those on active-duty status and their spouses only. However, starting Feb. 14, appointments will be available for the rest of the Desert Lightning Team.

"Our goal is to do tax returns for anyone who has regular access to D-M," said Armen Dermen, VITA coordinator. "We want to help individuals get their tax refunds as quickly as possible and not have to pay for the service."

The VITA program is a joint activity of the 355th Wing Legal Office and the D-M Retiree Activities Office. Staffed entirely by volunteers, the free income tax service is another way D-M is striving to develop and nurture its Airmen.

"We are fortunate that we have so many quality volunteers who can

provide this service," said Capt. Gregory Jackson, 355th Wing attorney.

According to Captain Jackson, the volunteers are prepared to file returns for a diverse group of people.

"The VITA program can handle any tax return regardless of its complexity," Captain Jackson said. "They can help the 18-year-old filing a Form 1040EZ all the way to people who are self-employed or have multiple real estate income properties. However, because they are non-profit, VITA disclaims any professional liability."

To ensure the volunteers are equipped to handle any type of filing, they receive training from a representative of the Internal Revenue Service on the tax-wise program.

This program involves electronic filing. With the program, individuals can get their refunds faster than if the filings were mailed. The system provides an option for direct deposit to a taxpayer's bank account with the deposit normally being made within two weeks.

In addition, Mr. Dermen pointed out there are benefits with the tax-wise program for individuals who

will have to pay the IRS this year.

"With the file-now and pay-later option, people can complete the taxes at any time and don't have to send in their check until April 15," Mr. Dermen said. "That allows people the opportunity to not put off filing until the last minute. They can get it out of the way and plan for the money they will owe later."

In order to assist the volunteer staff, taxpayers should bring the following items when visiting the VITA office for tax preparation:

- ◆ Social security card or record of social security number;
- ◆ The federal, and state if applicable, tax package the individual received in the mail;
- ◆ Forms W-2, 1099-R and other statements of reportable income such as Form SSA-1099
- ◆ All appropriate expense information such as medical, home mortgage interest, real estate taxes, student loans, charitable contributions and child care expenses;
- ◆ Information on rental property and investment sales;
- ◆ Applicable powers of attorney; and

◆ A copy of the taxpayers 2003 federal, and state, if applicable, tax returns.

"The copy of the 2003 tax returns is an extremely useful piece for taxpayers to have on them when they come to the VITA office," Mr. Dermen said. "It will make the entire process a lot easier."

In addition, the IRS is working to make filing taxes less stressful for servicemembers facing a deployment.

"The IRS gives an automatic 180-day extension from the day they return from deployment to file taxes," Captain Jackson said. "I recommend the individual send the IRS their name, address and expected return date to avoid complications. Affected taxpayers can do this by e-mailing the IRS at combatzone@irs.gov."

For those who plan to use the services provided by VITA, the office is located on Madera Street in Building 4310, Room 109, and will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, active duty and their spouses can begin scheduling appointments by calling 228-3489. The rest of the D-M community can schedule appointments after Feb. 7.

Rosa

Continued from Page 1

ous group and squadron commanders and DM-50 members.

The Air Force custom of Dining-in is believed to have begun in the 1930s with Gen. H. "Hap" Arnold's "wingdings." However, the Dining-out tradition provides servicemembers an opportunity to include spouses and guests in the festivities. It is a relatively new custom.

"(As the youngest service,) tradition is important to us," General Rosa said. "(We can not) forget our traditions and our heritage."

As part of the Dining-out tradition, Airman Gia Johnson, 355th OG work group manager, received a special seat for the evening. Because Airman Johnson is the most junior Airman in the unit, she received the opportunity to sit at the head table.

"It was an honor to sit at the head table," Airman Johnson said. "I was given a unique perspective for the

event and was able to meet General Rosa."

After dinner was served, General Rosa addressed the audience.

"It feels good to come back to D-M," said General Rosa, who was a student of the first A-10 training class at D-M. "My A-10 years were the best years of my flying career."

In addition to flying the A-10, the general has flown all of the types of aircraft currently assigned to the installation.

During General Rosa's speech he addressed the two

factors which he believes makes the U.S. Air Force the greatest in the world. The first is the enlisted corps.

"The U.S. enlisted force bar none is the best I have ever seen," General Rosa said. The U.S. Air Force provides enlisted men and women more responsibility and authority than other countries give their enlisted corps.

"The second factor that sets the U.S. Air Force apart is training," General Rosa said. "I can't tell you how much it has improved since my day. Performing realistic training

is the key (to a successful force)."

In addition to providing Airmen the tools to become the best Air Force in the world, the general addressed the importance of having a supportive community.

"D-M has one of the best communities in the Air Force," the general said, based on his experience moving 24 times in the last 32 years.

After General Rosa's speech and the final award presentations dancing and socializing were open to all in attendance.

Lt. Gen. Rosa presents 2004 annual awards to 355th OG winners

Congratulations to the following Airmen and civilian who were selected as 2004 annual 355th Operations Group award winners during the 355th OG Dining-out Jan. 15.

12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year SNCO of the Year

Master Sgt. Heidi Bondi,
355th Operations Support Squadron

12 OAY NCO of the Year

Tech. Sgt. Paul Walker, Jr., 355th OSS

12 OAY Airman of the Year

Senior Airman Esther Duhon,
355th Operations Group

Field Grade Officer of the Year

Major Werner Keidel, 354th Fighter Squadron

Company Grade Officer of the Year

Capt. Kevin Fenno, 357th FS

Civilian of the Year

Alberto Smith, 355th OSS

Instructor Pilot of the Year

Capt. Clinton Eichelberger, 357th FS

Flight Commander of the Year

Capt. Brian Gross, 354th FS

Overall Top Gun-Squadron (Thompson Trophy)

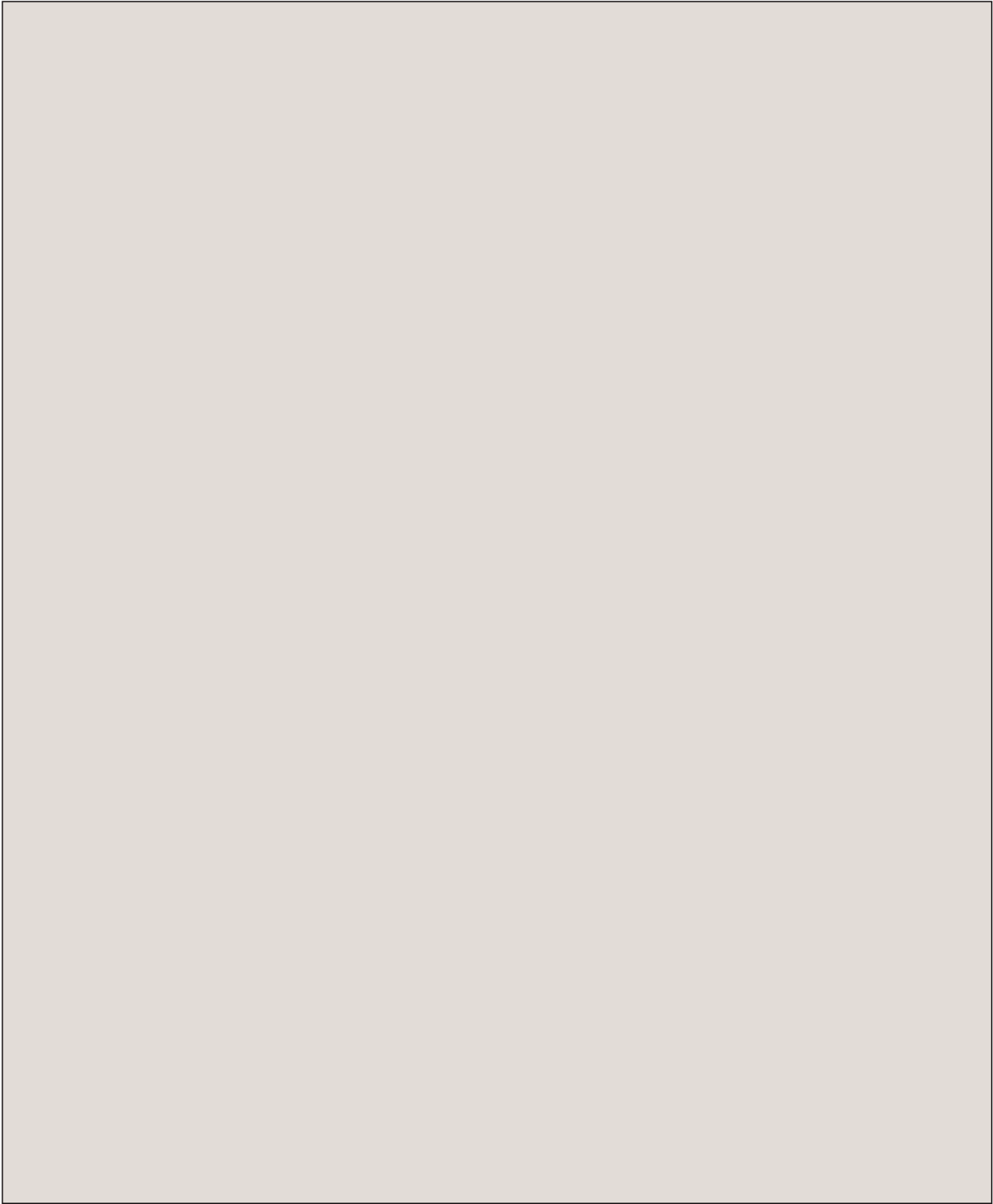
357th Fighter Squadron

Overall Top Gun-Individual

Capt. Michael Collins,
355th Training Squadron

Operations Group Squadron of the Year Award

358th Fighter Squadron



It's all in the family

A son reenlists his father, starts his career as his father's ends

By Senior Airman Cat Casaigrie
355th Wing Public Affairs

A re-enlistment here marked the end of one career and the beginning of another for a father and son Jan. 11.

Chief Master Sgt. Doug Wiggers, 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron maintenance superintendent, after serving 26.5 years in the Air Force, reenlisted for the final time with his son, 2nd Lt. Doug Wiggers Jr., 56th Logistic Readiness Squadron Air and space expeditionary force officer at Luke Air Force Base, presiding over the event. Lieutenant Wiggers has been in the Air Force for six months and it was his first time re-enlisting anyone.

"My father, Albert Wiggers, was in the Air Force," Chief Wiggers said. "My son is continuing the legacy. For all but four years of the Air Force's existence a Wiggers has served. My son is the first to be commissioned. I'm proud of him."

Lieutenant Wiggers is also proud of his father.

"My earliest memories are of my dad coming home in uniform," he said. "So as I grew up (being in the Air Force) was something I wanted to do; continue the family tradition, but on the officer side."

Of course, as a father and son with the same name both serving



(Left) 2nd Lt. Doug Wiggers, 56th Logistic Readiness Squadron, Luke Air Force Base, re-enlists his father Chief Master Sgt. Doug Wiggers, 355th Equipment Maintenance, for the final time Jan. 12. Chief Wiggers has already served for 26.5 years.

in the Air Force there are some funny moments. Lieutenant Wiggers said everywhere he goes people ask if he is related to Chief Wiggers, which also adds to his respect and admiration for his father. There are also the many exchanges of e-mails sent to the wrong Doug Wiggers.

"There are bragging rights," said Marie Wiggers, Lieutenant Wiggers'

wife. "Everyone knows his father is a chief."

Lieutenant Wiggers said since the time he decided to be an officer, he has wanted to reenlist his father.

"I had hoped and prayed he would be in the Air Force and that I would be in the service long enough for him to reenlist me. I am proud he (reenlisted me)," Chief Wiggers said.

The Air Force is a family, but when



Chief Master Sgt. Doug Wiggers, 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, hugs his son, 2nd Lt. Doug Wiggers, 56th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., after the lieutenant performed his father's final re-enlistment.

actual family is serving together it makes it much sweeter, Chief Wiggers said.

"I am extremely proud to have my son in the service, to have him as an officer," the chief said. "It is very cool to know we have the talent to take the reigns so that when it is time for us old timers to (retire), we know the Air Force is in good hands. I have a lot of faith in him. He is a fine officer."

Organization helps deployed Airmen feel closer to home

By Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle
355th Wing Public Affairs

A Tucson-based company is helping a nationwide organization collect old cell phones so servicemembers deployed to forward locations can contact their families.

Cell Phones for Soldiers, a program based in Norwell, Mass., helps develop and nurture Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines by providing them with a way to call home. It is difficult for soldiers who are deployed to call home because of time constraints and cost, said Nancy Hall, certified public accountant, who is responsible for the Tucson chapter of Cell Phones for Soldiers.

The program is a non-profit organization operating through donations of old cell phones and batteries. The phones and batteries are sold to a company on the east coast who recycles them. The organization then uses the money to purchase phone cards that are sent to servicemembers in forward deployed locations.

The program is an idea conceived by children. Brittany Bergquist, 13, and her brother, Robbie Bergquist, 12, both of Norwell, Mass., came up with

the plan after watching on the local news of a soldier who racked up a cell phone bill calling home while stationed in Iraq. The phone bill was so large the soldier had trouble paying it.

Soon after, Brittany and Robbie pooled their snack money, about \$21, and took it to the local bank to open an account. The bank donated \$500 to their cause and the idea was born.

The fledgling program received a big hand from Jim Kelly, Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback. He took interest, became a sponsor of the program and helped bring notoriety to the cause. He also developed a sister program that enables people to donate money through their phone bills. Using his fame, he has helped bring national attention to the cause.

Since then, CPFS has raised about \$250,000 and sent more than 9,000 calling cards to servicemembers deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

People interested in donating who do not have cell phones or batteries to give can donate money through the organization's Web site, said Ms. Hall.

Ms. Hall volunteered to be a collection agent for the city of Tucson and uses the company she works

for as a collection point. She encourages people to bring their old phones in to either of her company's offices.

Ms. Hall's company has two drop off locations. One is at 4231 E. 22nd St., Suite 165, near the corner of Columbus and 22nd. The second location is closer to Davis-Monthan, on the corner of Speedway and Craycroft at 5470 E. Speedway, Suite A106.

Donating old cell phones is such an easy thing to do to help the soldiers while they're deployed, she said. A lot of people have them around the house, under beds or in old boxes in garages.

Since the Tucson chapter's inception in October, they have been able to collect about 35 cell phones.

"One lady actually came all the way from Nogales to donate a cell phone," she said.

People interested in donating cell phones, money or those who are interested in learning more about the program can log on to www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com or contact Nancy Hall at 790-8829.

Cell Phones for Soldiers asks only phones and their batteries are dropped off. The company that recycles them does not accept manuals, boxes or chargers.

Arrival of C-5 helps prepare Airmen to deploy

By Stephanie Ritter
355th Wing Public Affairs

Jan. 13, a C-5B Galaxy assigned to the 436th Air Wing at Dover Air Force Base, Del. arrived at Davis-Monthan. Its crew was from the 512th Air Wing and its mission here was to provide D-M personnel a training opportunity.

According to Master Sgt. Mitchell Marchus, 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron Air Terminal Operations superintendent, the training, referred to as Joint Airborne/Air Transportability Training, provides Augmentation Duty Program Cargo Deployment Function personnel the capability to conduct hands-on aircraft load training.

"Air Combat Command requires that each ACC base receive a minimum of three JA/ATT missions per fiscal year," Sergeant Marchus said. "The cost to bring the C-5 mission to Davis-Monthan was more than \$180,000."

However, this training can be priceless for D-M's personnel.

"With this training, personnel will



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

Airman with the 355th Wing, 12th Air Force, 55th Electronic Combat Group and the 563rd Rescue Group perform hands-on aircraft load training on a C-5.

be able to safely load deploying units on to airlift aircraft without delay," Sergeant Marchus said. "The JA/ATT training is also very valuable due to the heavy demand for airlift assets. It is critical that we use the aircraft to the fullest extent possible."

And to take advantage of the air-

craft, members of the wing mobility team, comprised of 48 military personnel from throughout the installation, loaded cargo and tied it down for practice, said Willie Jordan, 355th LRS Traffic Management Flight chief.

"The wing deployment functions and cargo deployment functions are

made up of personnel from the 355th Wing, 12th Air Force, 563rd Rescue Group and the 55th Electronic Combat Group," Mr. Jordan said.

According to Mr. Jordan, JA/ATT training begins with Air Terminal Operations personnel requesting the training and scheduling it with Davis-Monthan personnel. They then request cargo from units and inspect the cargo to ensure its air worthiness.

For the Jan. 13 training, the 355th LRS and 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron provided cargo, Sergeant Marchus said.

Once that was taken care of, the load crew plans the cargo for a C-5 and instructed Augmentation Duty Program personnel on how to load the aircraft C-5, Mr. Jordan said.

"The C-5 crew members and personnel from D-M all agreed that this type of training benefits both D-M and Air Mobility Command because when it comes time to deploy D-M's warriors, D-M will be ready," Mr. Jordan said. "A well trained deployment function ensures the Wing can get the warriors out of town to fly and fight."

LOAC offers security, peace of mind in times of conflict

Capt. Timothy Rushenberg
355th Wing Legal Office

The Law of Armed Conflict is required training for every Airman in the Air Force and for good reason. The LOAC is a matter of international law and it guides the way we fight in conflicts around the world. It places restrictions on who we can shoot (i.e. combatants) and what we can blow up (i.e. military personnel and weapons).

The goal of LOAC is not to tie the hands of our fighting forces, but to win the war, and second, to win the peace. Much has been made about Abu Ghraib prison scandal and the detainees at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba, but it must be understood that the U.S. military follows LOAC and will prosecute Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen who do not.

An infamous example is Army 1st Lt. William Calley, Jr. Many of our younger Airmen may not be familiar with Lieutenant Calley and his actions in Vietnam, but it is worth retelling.

Lieutenant Calley was a platoon leader in 'C' Company whose mission was to subdue and

"I was just following an order is no excuse if that order requires you to do something that is clearly illegal."

Capt. Timothy Rushenberg
355th Wing legal office

drive out the enemy during the Vietnam War. On March 16, 1968, 'C' Company entered the village of May Lai, in the Republic of Vietnam. The platoon encountered only noncombatants: unarmed, unresisting men, women and children. 'C' Company gathered the villagers together and moved them to separate groups. Lieutenant Calley said Captain Ernest Medina, his superior, ordered him to "waste them." Lieutenant Calley testified at his trial he

obeyed the order of his superior officer because he had been taught the doctrine of obedience throughout his military career. Captain Medina denied he gave any such order.

Despite this excuse, Lieutenant Calley was convicted of the premeditated murder of 22 men, women and children, and of assault with intent to murder a child of about two years of age. On March 31, 1971, he received a dismissal from the Army and was sentenced to life in prison. Politics and public opinion affected the sentence Lieutenant Calley eventually received. Only a day after his sentence, President Richard Nixon ordered him released from prison. His sentence was further reduced. He ultimately served only three and a half years of house arrest in his home at Fort Benning, Ga., and was then released in 1974 by a federal judge.

The lessons from the story of Lieutenant Calley are twofold: the military takes LOAC very seriously — we will prosecute our own if there is a violation; and second, always use common sense — to say "I was just following an order" is no excuse if that order requires you to do something that is clearly illegal.

OPSEC provides guidelines to protect national security, public safety

Master Sgt. Carlos Geuvara
355th Wing Plans and Programs

Our attention to security must change now. The events of Sept. 11, 2001, proved there is a demonstrated and known threat to our security. How many times have we heard that terrorism is a threat? Most of us thought it could only happen elsewhere, not in America.

Unfortunately, we have suffered several terrorist attacks in recent years; the Oklahoma City and U.S.S. Cole attacks, as well as the tragic events that unfolded on Sept. 11, 2001.

In these cases, the adversaries were successful because they knew our vulnerabilities. Americans freely provided information that was unknowingly used against us.

The information that is

used against us is not classified information; it is information that is openly available to anyone who knows where to look and what to ask.

We do not realize how much we are giving away by our predictable behavior, casual conversations, routine acquisitions and Internet information.

Commanders must actively advocate, support and integrate operations

security options in support of operational missions and exercises. We can all incorporate operations security into our everyday work routine. Practicing OPSEC will help prevent valuable information from ending up in the wrong hands.

It is helpful to view yourself and your actions as an adversary would. We can never underestimate the capabilities or strength of terrorists or any other

adversary. Nothing is more dangerous than people who are willing to die for their cause.

The wing OPSEC representatives are Major James Bennett, assistant director of operations, plans and programs and myself, noncommissioned officer in charge of intelligence, plans and programs.

To reach the OPSEC representatives, call 228-4605.

Final Answer ————— How has the Desert Lightning Team changed since you first arrived here?



**Airman 1st Class
Patrick Connor**
43rd Electronic
Combat Squadron

*"The Desert
Lightning Strike
Force was created."*



**Chief Master Sgt.
Frank Brown**
355th Logistics
Readiness Squadron

*"The quality of life
and the base
infrastructure has
improved 100 percent."*



**Master Sgt.
Anthony Williams**
355th Equipment
Maintenance Squadron

*"The facilities have
become updated, the
operations tempo has
increased and the
overall atmosphere of
the people has
improved."*



**Senior Airman
Steven Wiley**
355th Logistics
Readiness Squadron

*"Morale has im-
proved among the
lower ranks."*



**Tech Sgt.
Roland Cooley**
355th Maintenance
Operations Squadron

*"The base has
become more people
oriented. The facilities,
like base housing, are
a lot nicer."*



**Airman 1st Class
Jon Gilliland**
355th Communication
Squadron

*"The overall morale
has improved because
of the programs that
are now available to
Airmen."*

Heart Link orientates new military spouses to Air Force life, programs, benefits

The next Heart Link class will take place Feb. 24 at The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club. The class helps educate spouses on the Air Force. The class runs from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will include a working lunch. Free child care is available, however, it must be requested in advance. For more information or to make a class reservation, call the Family Support Center at 228-5690.

First lieutenants receive promotion to captain



Fourteen first lieutenants stationed at Davis-Monthan were selected by the Air Force promotion board to captain.

Congratulations to the following Airmen:

25th Operations Weather Squadron

Jon Schiefelbein

28th Test Squadron

Daniel Vaughn

41st Electronic Combat Squadron

Matthew Butterworth

Candice Morrow

43rd Electronic Combat Squadron

Tobey Thatcher

355th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Christy Garcia

355th Operations Support Squadron

Lee Sims, III

355th Maintenance Squadron

Michael Stargell

355th Medical Operations Squadron

Larry Stowers

355th Security Forces Squadron

Joseph Parsons

563rd Maintenance Squadron

Christopher Fontana

563rd Operations Squadron

Jill Deshano

612th Air Base Squadron

Anna Siegel

755th Operations Support Squadron

Matthew Bubar

Weapons Load Crew of the Quarter



Courtesy Photo

Congratulations to the following Airmen who won the Weapons Load Crew of the Quarter competition from the 357th Aircraft Maintenance Unit:

Staff Sgt. Daniel McNamara, Airman 1st Class Melissa Perez and Airman 1st Class Christopher Orsolini.

During the Weapons Load Crew of the Quarter competition the three-person teams raced to safely prepare munitions for an A-10. The teams wired the munitions, prepared the aircraft to accept the munitions and loaded the munitions.

Staff Sgt. Daniel McNamara (left) and Airman 1st Class Christopher Orsolini (right), both from 357th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, install the Computer Control Group on the Guided Bomb Unit-12.

Send Valentine's Day messages to loved ones

Every year, the *Desert Airman* offers a section for the entire Desert Lightning community, including those who are deployed, to send a Valentine's Day message to their loved ones. The message should include: the recipient's name, the name of the person sending it and should not be more than 40 words in length. For messages in another language, please include the English translation.

Individuals interested in sending a Valentine's Day message need to send it to desert.airman@dm.af.mil no later than Feb. 1.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, gives Staff Sgt. Robert Bennett, 355th Contracting Squadron, the Desert Lightning Sponsor of the Quarter award Jan. 11.

Desert Lightning team names Sponsor of the Quarter

Meeting a new Airman at 3 a.m., providing a place in his home for the night and helping the Airman find lodging the following day were just a few things Staff Sgt. Robert Bennett, 355th Contracting Squadron, did to welcome a newcomer to D-M and make the transition smooth. To enroll in upcoming sponsorship training, contact the Family Support Center at 228-5690.



Sonoran Spotlight

(Editor's note: Sonoran Spotlight is a weekly feature of the Desert Airman that profiles a member — officer, enlisted or civilian — of the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.)

This week's Sonoran Spotlight is Staff Sgt. Carey Martin of the 355th Communications Squadron. Sergeant Martin is the telephone systems NCO in-charge. According to her supervisor, 2nd Lt. Christina Perez, she was nominated for the spotlight because, "she is one of our outstanding NCOs here at the Theater Deployable Communications work center and truly deserves to be recognized."

The following are Sergeant Martin's responses to a variety of questions.

Best aspects of the job: I love working with the equipment. Teaching is something I enjoy in small classroom environments.

Career goals: My goal is to serve my 20 or so years and then retire.

Hobbies, outside activities: I enjoy fishing, boating and working on cars with my husband.

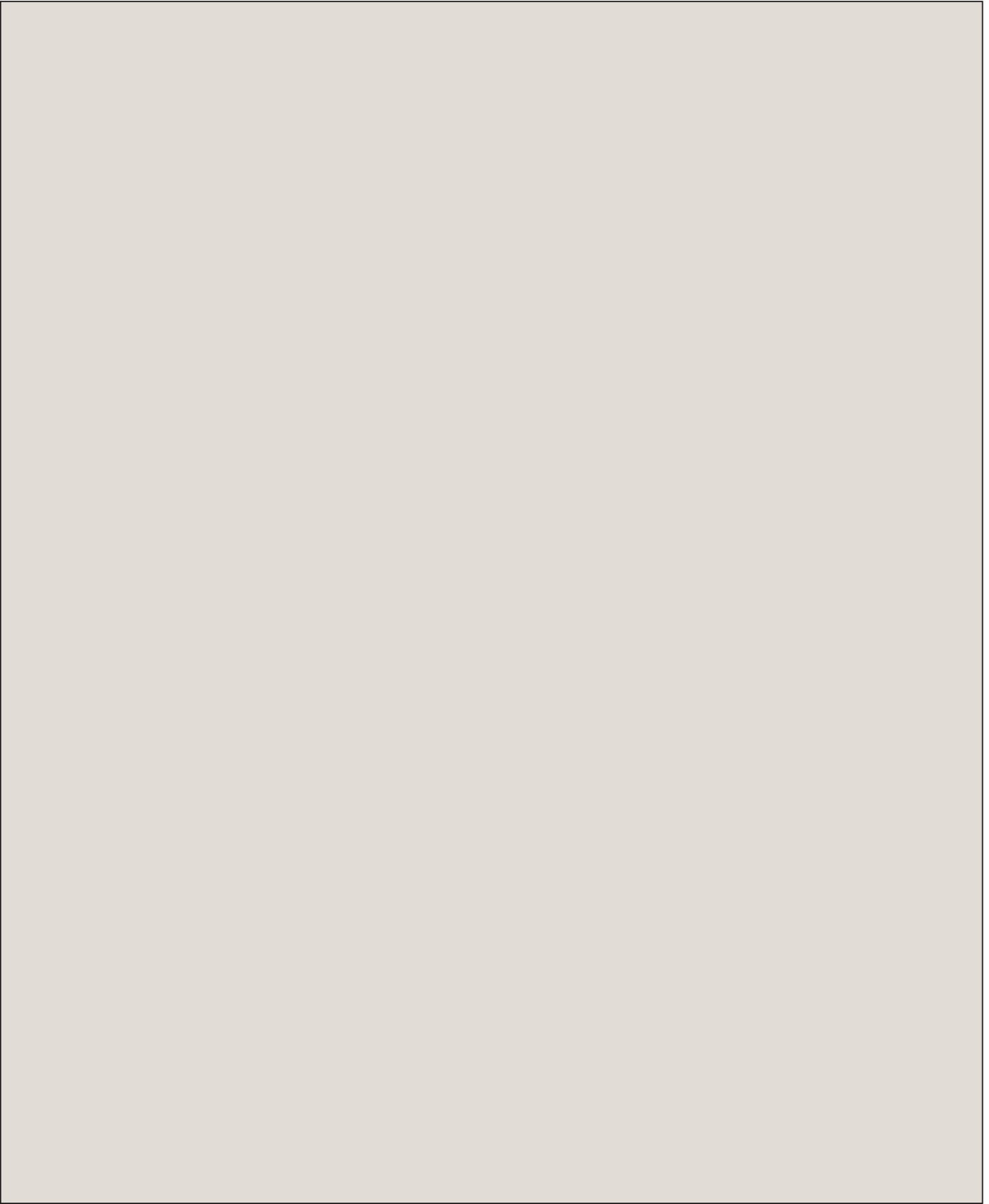
What has been your best assignment and why: D-M has been my best assignment because this is where I got married, bought my first house and met great people.

If you were an Air Force recruiter, what would you tell people about the Air Force? I would tell people to expect to work hard and to make the best out of everything the Air Force gives you.



Photo by Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy

What is the best advice you've received in the Air Force? Make the best of your situation. **Name someone who inspires you (or that you admire) and why:** The person who I admire the most is my Aunt Vickie. She has been through so much and managed to finish nursing school and raise a little boy.





Staff Sgt. Chad Chisholm

President George Bush shakes hands with servicemembers at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. after a speech in June 2004. President Bush began his second term of office Thursday. President Bush is the 43rd President of the United States of America.

President salutes those who serve

The following is a speech given Tuesday by President George W. Bush at the 55th Presidential inauguration event titled "Saluting Those Who Serve."

It is such a pleasure to be with the courageous men and women of the United States Armed Forces. As we prepare to celebrate our nation's 55th presidential inauguration, I can think of no better way to begin than by giving thanks for our freedom and those who make it possible.

Whether you serve in the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard, each of you has stepped forward to serve. You have risked your lives in faraway mountains and arid deserts, in perilous skies and on the high seas, to defend liberty and to free those trapped by tyranny. As I prepare to take the oath of office, I want you to know how grateful I am for your service and sacrifice, and how proud I am to be your Commander-in-Chief.

And I am really proud of our First Lady, my wife. I love her dearly. I appreciate so very much the service and advice and friendship of our Vice President, Dick Cheney. Like me, he married well. It's good to see my mother and father. Secretary Rumsfeld, thank you for your great service to our nation. And it's good to see Joyce.

I appreciate the military commanders who are here. I want to thank the members of my administration who've joined us; members of Congress; members of the active military; wounded troops; congressional Medal of Honor recipients — Family members of our fallen soldiers, thank you so much for being here today.

Our troops watching from Baghdad, Iraq, and Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan, God bless you all.

I thank Kelsey Grammer — what a fine man. I appreciate his patriotism and being the emcee of this fantastic event. I want to thank all the other entertainers who have taken of their time to entertain our troops, and really to say — what they're doing here is to say thank goodness for your service.

The inauguration of a President is a great moment in the life of our country. With an election behind us, the American people come together in unity to celebrate our freedom. A presidential inauguration is a testament to the power of democracy, a symbol of our confidence in the popular will, and a sign of hope for freedom-loving people everywhere.

We are blessed to live in hopeful times, when the promise of liberty is spreading across the world. In the last four years, more than 50

million people have joined the ranks of the free. The people of Afghanistan have thrown off an outlaw regime, and chosen a President in the first free elections in that nation's 5,000-year history. And in coming days, the Iraqi people will have their chance to go to the polls, to begin the process of creating a democratic government that will answer to the people, instead of to a thug and a tyrant.

These are landmark events in the history of liberty. And none of it would have been possible without the courage and the determination of the United States Armed Forces.

Through your service and sacrifice in the war on terror, you are making America safer. You're making America safer for not only those of us who live today, but for future generations of Americans. Your sacrifice has made it possible for our children and grandchildren to grow up in a safer world.

Many here today have endured long separations from your families. We understand that and we thank you for that. Some are preparing to do so. Others have suffered terrible injuries, wounds you will carry with you for the rest of your lives. Still others have lost loved ones in this struggle, heroes who gave their lives so that we might live in freedom. We hold them in our hearts; we lift them up in our

prayers.

We're grateful to you, and we are grateful to your families who love and support you. Your families miss you and they worry about you and they pray for you, always wondering where you are and if you're safe. By their sacrifice, they also serve. Our nation is grateful to our military families.

You, those who wear our uniform, have given much, and much more will be asked of you in the months and years ahead. In Afghanistan and Iraq, the liberty that has been won at great cost now must be secured. We still face terrorist enemies who wish to harm our people, and are seeking weapons that would allow them to kill on an unprecedented scale. These enemies must be stopped, and you are the ones who will stop them.

The road ahead will be difficult and dangerous, but we can proceed with courage and with confidence. History moves toward freedom because the desire for freedom is written in every human heart. And the cause of freedom is in the best of hands — the hands of the United States Armed Forces.

And so, thank you for your service. Thank you for your sacrifice. May God bless you, and may God bless your families, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

Taking a closer look at Air Mobility Command

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman

Alaskan Command Public Affairs

Across

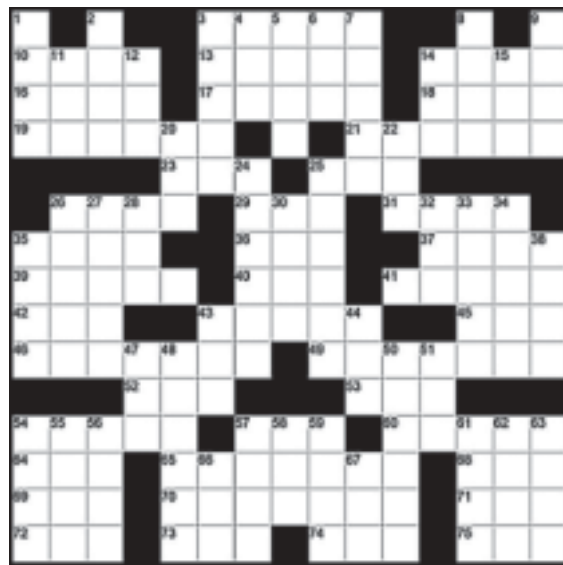
3. AMC base
10. Concept
13. Trained personnel nucleus
14. Scent
16. Dread
17. Narcotic
18. Dressed
19. AMC's KC-10 or KC-135
21. Item for 54 ACROSS for AMC planes
23. Canada prov.
25. Wager
26. Tribe
29. ___ de Janeiro
31. Mild exclamation
35. Hip
36. Play part
37. Comedy duo ___ & Andy
39. Walked
40. Animal doc
41. Drink add-on

42. Pub order
43. Mischievous pranks
45. Formerly
46. Questions
49. AMC base
52. Charged particle
53. XV ___; NAF for AMC
54. Items moved by AMC
57. Honest ___; Lincoln
60. Not going to happen
64. Best pilot
65. AMC base
68. Federal org. concerned with environment
69. Federal org. concerned with taxes
70. Ear part
71. USAF deployment set
72. Capture
73. Building block, in short
74. Greek letter
75. Allow

Down

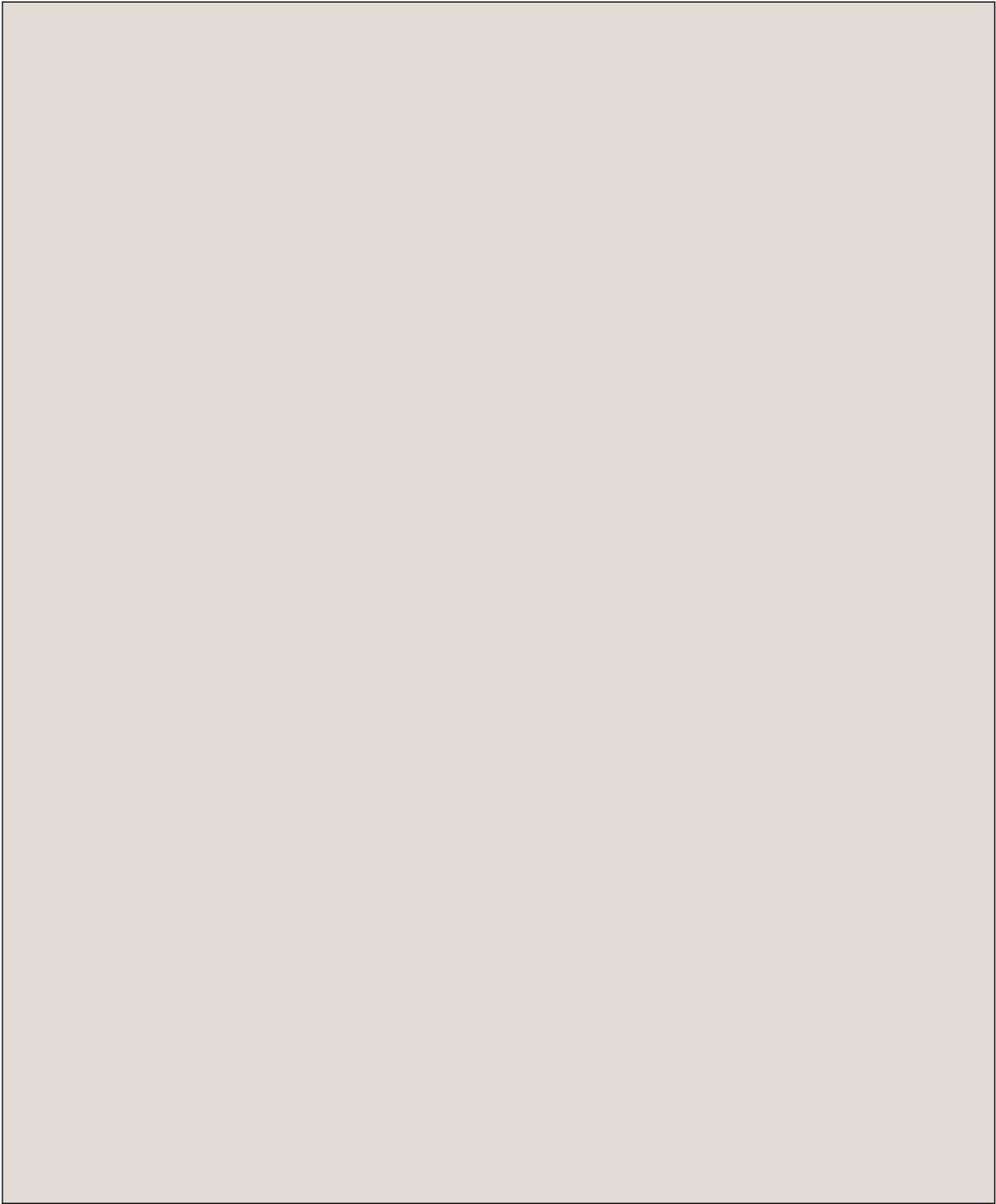
1. Mission of AMC
2. Thin

3. Contempt
4. Hat
5. Garfield friend
6. Fox show "___ Calling"
7. Arizona town
8. Fox show "American ___"
9. Worry
11. Federal org. concerned with drug trade
12. "Raiders of the Lost ___"
14. Barn animal
15. Mining goal
20. Long time
22. Dined
24. AMC base
25. Ground
26. Texas cookout item?
27. Enjoyed
28. Mock
30. Cooled
32. Lady
33. Type of acid
34. AMC base
35. Burn
38. Plant start
43. Lair



(The solutions for this puzzle are located on Page 18.)

44. ___-fi
47. Excavate
48. Surfaced
50. Movie place
51. To go quickly
54. Able's brother
55. Land unit
56. Relax
57. Taj Mahal locale
58. Pal
59. "Ireland" in Gaelic
61. Steak type
62. Fencing sword
63. Boat
66. Able to do
67. Tire path







Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal

The Las Vegas Ballers battle it out against Team D&D during the Championship Game of the Best of the West Basketball Tourney. The Las Vegas Ballers were the winners of the annual tournament.

Best of the West

Davis-Monthan hosted the annual Best of the West Basketball Tourney Jan. 14 through Monday at the Fitness and Sports Center. Eleven teams competed for the title of Best of the West during the double-elimination format tournament. The teams were compiled of both military and civilian players.

The team from Davis-Monthan was elimi-

nated in the third round by Team Alb. The Las Vegas Ballers and Team D&D competed against each other in the final round with the Las Vegas Ballers winning. The Las Vegas Ballers received a trophy for their win.

The Best of the West Tourney is held at the fitness center during the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday each year. For more information, call the center at 228-0022.

Sports Shorts

Crud tournament winners

The Logistics Officer's Association won the 355th Operations Group Crud Tournament Jan. 13. All the proceeds from the event went to benefit the 355th OG Annual Awards Dining-out.

D-M Biathlon Series

The Davis-Monthan community can now sign up for the D-M Biathlon Series. This program promotes swimming and running as a life-long recreational activity to help individuals meet their personal fitness goals. It is designed for participants to compete in three biathlons over a three-month period. The schedule is as follows:

- ◆ A 500 meter swim and a one and a half mile run Monday,
- ◆ A 600 meter swim and a two-mile run Feb. 28 and
- ◆ An 800 meter swim and a three-mile run March 28.

For more information, call the Fitness and Sports Center's indoor pool at 228-0015.

Swim Team meeting

Parents of children on the new D-M Swim Team are invited to a meeting Feb. 5 to discuss specifics about the team. Information covered includes the cost, practices, equipment and more. Parents are invited to gain information and ask questions during the meeting. For more information, call Billy Vinuesa at 228-3759.

Snowbowl skiing

D-M's Outdoor Recreation has a trip to the

Arizona Snowbowl Feb. 11. Cost is \$150 and includes transportation and two night's lodging. Participants will be able to rent their equipment at Fort Tuthill. Lift tickets cost \$42 for the day or \$34 for half the day. Arizona Snowbowl, located on the San Francisco Peaks, is one of the oldest continually run ski areas in the United States. It offers more than 50 acres and two chairlifts in the Hart Prairie beginner area. Advanced skiers and snowboarders can enjoy challenging trails and more than 2,300 feet of vertical drop. With four chair lifts, 32 scenic alpine trails, a terrain park for boarders and skiers, as well as two lodges, both with a restaurant, bar and sports shop, there is a wide variety of things to do. For more information, call 228-4491.

Trail ride

There is a trip to Fort Huachuca for a two-hour horseback trail ride through the Huachuca Mountains Feb. 26. After the ride there will be a barbecue dinner. Participants must be at least 7 years old and should bring plenty of water and dress for the weather. The cost is \$25 and includes transportation, dinner and the ride. For more information, call 228-4491.

Umpires needed

The Pantano Little League is seeking individuals interested in being volunteer umpires. The job entails learning the rules of little league and attending training clinics for the position of umpire. The training includes mechanics and rule interpretation. Games begin in April. The volunteer umpire should have respect for the

Fitness Center Classes

The following list includes classes offered at both fitness centers with class fees if applicable. For more information, call 228-0021.

Monday

6 to 6:30 a.m. - Stomach Aerobics - Fitness Center
11 a.m. to noon - Pilates - \$2 - FC
11 a.m. to noon - Step Aerobics - Haeffner
Noon to 1 p.m. - Spinning - Haeffner
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - Haeffner
5 to 5:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, white and yellow belts) - FC
6 to 6:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, orange belts and up) - FC
6 to 7 p.m. - Yoga - \$2 - Haeffner
7 to 8 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (15 years plus) - FC

Tuesday

Noon to 1 p.m. - Circuit Training - Haeffner
Noon to 1 p.m. - Shallow Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool
5 to 6 p.m. - Spinning (Intense) - \$2 - Haeffner
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC
6 to 7 p.m. - Pilates - \$2 - FC
6 to 8 p.m. - Self Defense (Kyokushin) - \$25/month - FC

Wednesday

6 to 6:30 a.m. - Stomach Aerobics - Haeffner
11 a.m. to noon - Pilates - \$2 - FC
11 a.m. to noon - Step Aerobics - Haeffner
Noon to 1 p.m. - Deep Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - Haeffner
5 to 5:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, orange belts and up) - FC
6 to 6:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, white and yellow belts) FC
6 to 7 p.m. - Yoga - \$2 - Haeffner
7 to 8 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (Adults) - FC

Thursday

Noon to 1 p.m. - Circuit Training - Haeffner
Noon to 1 p.m. - Shallow Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC
5 to 6 p.m. - Spinning (Intense) - Haeffner
6 to 7 p.m. - Pilates - \$2 - Haeffner
6 to 8 p.m. - Kyokushin - \$25/month - FC

Friday

6 to 6:30 a.m. - Stomach Aerobics - FC
11 a.m. to noon - Pilates - \$2 - FC
11 a.m. to noon - Step Aerobics - Haeffner
Noon to 1 p.m. - Deep Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool
Noon to 1 p.m. - Spinning - Haeffner
5 to 5:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8 to 14 yrs, white and yellow belt) - FC
6 to 6:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8 to 14 yrs, orange belts and up) FC
7 to 8 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (Adults) - FC

Saturday

10 to 11 a.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC

Sunday

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC

game of baseball, the managers, coaches and above all the young boys and girls who look up to the adult volunteers. All volunteers must complete a volunteer application form, which is available at <http://eteamz.active.com/pantano/littleleague>. For more information, call 722-0474 or send an e-mail to respectthegame@earthlink.net.



Courtesy photo

Members of Davis-Monthan's Yoga Class practice a move and focus on deep breathing to increase their flexibility, strength and overall well being.

Yoga classes

Davis-Monthan offers the Desert Lightning Community Yoga classes Monday and Wednesday at the Haeffner Fitness Center. Classes run from 6 to 7 p.m. and the cost is \$2 for each session.

During the class, participants work on a wide variety of moves to help flexibility, increase strength and improve the overall awareness of one's body. Yoga is not a religion but is referred to as a spiritual practice. A specific belief system is not needed to

participate as the philosophies of Yoga are universal and can be incorporated within any belief system.

The class offered at D-M is open to all skill levels, including those who already have a Yoga practice or those who have never tried it before. In addition, the class can embrace people coming from a wide variety of health-related issues and concerns. The D-M community is invited to visit a class to increase their knowledge of the practice of Yoga. For more information, call 228-3714.

Sports Shorts

Golf Tournament

The Black Heritage Association will host a golf tournament at D-M's Blanchard Golf Course Feb. 5. Tee time is noon. For more information, or for those who are interested in playing, contact Tech. Sgt. Ventrus Boyd at 228-5620 to sign up. Entry forms can also be sent in by mail to Black Heritage Assoc., P.O. Box 15208, DMAFB, Ariz. 85707-0269.

Ventana Canyon hike

This hike takes place Feb. 4 and is a 4.8 mile hike into the Catalina mountains. Ventana Canyon allows hikers to get away from the sights and sounds of the city. The cost is \$15 and includes transportation and a guide. Hikers need to dress for the weather and bring plenty of water, food and sunscreen. For more information, call 228-4491.

Archery, Trap & Skeet Range

The D-M Archery Range and Trap & Skeet Range is available to all active duty, dependents, Depart-

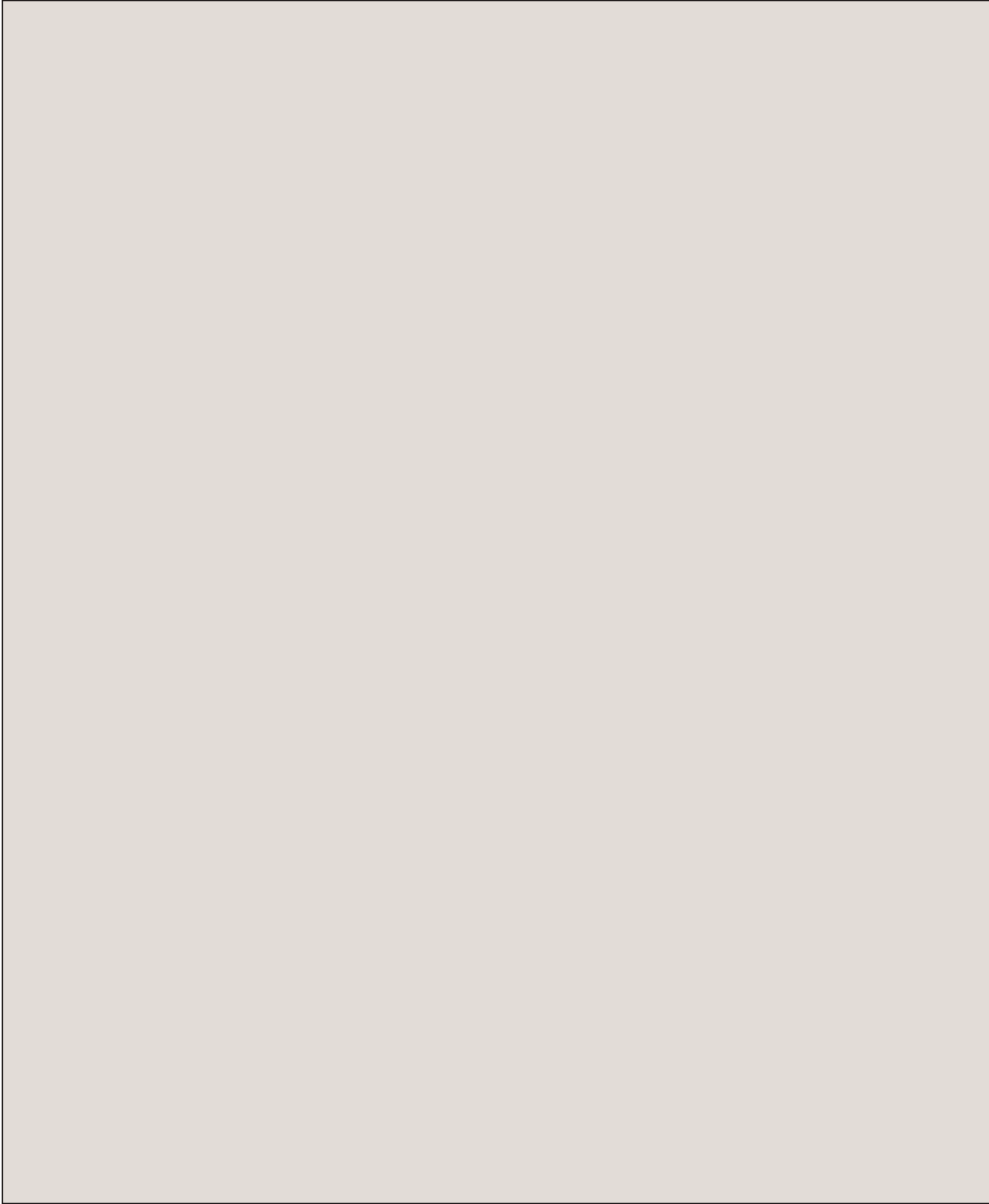
ment of Defense civilians and retirees. The Archery Range is co-located with the Paintball Range off Yuma Road. Anyone wishing to use the Archery Range may check out the key from outdoor recreation. The Trap & Skeet Range is open Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$4 per round. For more information on either activity, call 228-3736.

Equipment rental

Outdoor Recreation has hundreds of items for rent ranging from camping equipment to tools and sports equipment. To see their selection of items, visit Building 4430 or check out their equipment price list and other important info at www.dmservicesonline.com. For more information regarding the equipment, call 228-3736.

D-M's Intramural Program

The Davis-Monthan Intramural Program is run by the Fitness and Sports Center. For more information regarding upcoming leagues, or for more information regarding the current schedule of games, call the center at 228-0022.



Chapel Information

Services and activities offered by the D-M chapel are listed below. For more information on Jewish or Muslim services; Sunday School programs; Vacation Bible School; Bible studies; youth groups; and ministries, call 228-5411.

Catholic Mass schedule

Saturday: First Saturday Mass at 9 a.m. in Hope Chapel. The Mass will be followed by a breakfast fellowship. For more information, call Jeff Morgan at 574-2567.

Mass is at 5 p.m., Sacrament of Reconciliation is at 4:30 p.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

Sunday: Mass is at 7:30 and 10 a.m., Sacrament of Reconciliation is at 9:15 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

Daily: Mass is at 11:30 a.m. at Hope Chapel. Rosary begins at 11:10 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

Protestant Services schedule

Sunday: Contemporary Service is at 9:45 a.m. and Gospel Service is at 11:15 a.m. at Hope Chapel. Traditional Service is at 11:15 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

Education Services

AFVEC

The Air Force Virtual Education Center Web site is the Air Force's premier site for providing information about educational information and benefits. The purpose of this site is to provide students one-stop-shopping for all higher education needs. The AFVEC offers a wide array of online services to empower the student to actively participate in all aspects of their education. It is encouraged that all personnel subscribe to AFVEC at <https://afvec.langley.af.mil>. For more information, call Rafael Maldonado at 228-3484 or Norma White at 228-4249.

Microsoft certification

The Defense Activity for Non-traditional Educational Support Microsoft voucher program began Nov. 1. It is a paperless voucher system that allows for payment of one Microsoft Professional test to each eligible active-duty or Reserve component member who applied. Military members take their tests at either Pearson VUE or New Horizon test centers. The vouchers are restricted to Microsoft CompTIA's A+. Any other information technology certification tests are not allowed as substitution tests. While the program could potentially last for two years, the number of vouchers is limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The application process is not complete until JASZ Technology receives a complete application form with Test Control Officer signature. For more information and an application visit <https://www.dantes-microsoft-test.com/>. The points of contact are Rafael Maldonado at 228-3484 or Norma White at 228-4249.

Scholarships

The deadline to apply for \$1,500 scholarships from the Scholarships for Military Children program is Feb. 16. Applications must be delivered to a Defense Commissary Agency store by that date. At least one scholarship will be

awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants. The application is available online at www.militaryscholar.org and at commissaries worldwide.

University of Phoenix

A representative from the University of Phoenix will be available Tuesday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Building 3200, Room 243. Appointments and walk-ins are welcome. For more information, call Liz Cummins at 239-5252.

Family Support Center

Veterans Affairs claims assistance

A Veterans Affairs representative will provide group appointments concerning veterans and disability benefits Monday at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Building 3200, Room 266. To sign up, call 228-5690.

Pre-separation counseling

This class will take place at the D-M Family Support Center Tuesday and Feb. 1 from 9 to 10 a.m. This mandatory program will acquaint departing Airmen with services and agencies available to help transition to the civilian workforce. The class size is limited to 25 attendees and should be scheduled no later than 90 days before separating. To sign up, call 228-5690.

Right Start Base Orientation

Right Start Base Orientation is designed to welcome all newcomers to Davis-Monthan. Leadership and base agencies discuss a variety of available programs and services. The next orientation is Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club. Free childcare is available but must be arranged ahead of time. For more information, call 228-5690.

Smooth Move

The Family Support Center will host a Smooth Move briefing Feb. 2 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. in

Building 3200, Room. 266. This briefing helps individuals prepare for their next permanent change of station. For reservations, call 228-5690.

Happenings

Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, D-M's Black Heritage Association will host a luncheon at The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition, they will host a Love of Reading event at Lowell-Smith Elementary School and the base child development centers from Feb. 7 to 11. For more information regarding these events, or for more information regarding other Black History Month events, contact Tech. Sgt. Robin Hawkins, 355th Medical Support Squadron, at 228-2688 or Tech. Sgt. Robin Boyd, 12th Air Force, at 228-5620.

SMW bake sale

The Society of Military Widows will host a bake sale outside the base exchange Jan. 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Widows of all services whose spouses died on active duty or in retirement are invited to join the society. For more information, call 663-0279.

OSC Charity Gala and Silent Auction

Invitations to the Officers' Spouses' Club Charity Gala and Silent Auction will be going out in March. The event will be April 16 at the Pima Air and Space Museum. The funds raised will be used to benefit both military and civilians through the distribution of scholarships and monetary donations. Those who are interested in attending can call either Elizabeth Kramlinger at 747-3037 or Carolyn Kincaid at 514-0948.

D-M Thrift Shop

The D-M Thrift Shop, located on Ironwood Street across from the bowling alley, is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with consignments closing at 1 p.m.

Movies

Admission is for Department of Defense ID card holders and their guests only. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12 and senior citizens. For the theater movie recording, call 228-5694.

Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.

Blade: Trinity, R — For years, Blade has fought against vampires in the cover of night. But now, after falling into the crosshairs of the FBI, he is forced out into the daylight and driven to join forces with a clan of human vampire hunters he never knew existed - The Nightstalkers. Together with Abigail and Hannibal, two deftly trained Nightstalkers, Blade follows a trail of blood to an ancient creature that is hunting him ... the original vampire, Dracula. 1 hour, 46 minutes



Sunday at 7 p.m.

Ocean's Twelve, PG-13 — Three years after pulling off one of the most audacious heists in history, Danny Ocean and his crew have all tried to live legit lives. But when someone rats them out to the ruthless man they stole the money from, Terry Benedict, cleaning up their act is no longer an option. Now, Benedict wants his \$160 million back, with interest, or else. Unfortunately, Benedict isn't the only person looking for Ocean's Eleven. 2 hours, 5 minutes



Hours of operation

Arts and Crafts Center	228-4385
Tues., Wed. and Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thurs. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sat. noon to 4 p.m.	
Auto Skills Center	228-3614
Tues. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Closed Sun. and Mon.	
Blanchard Golf Course	228-3734
Daily, sunrise to sunset	
Bowling Center	228-3461
Mon. - Thurs., 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.	
Cabanas	747-3234
Mon. - Thurs. 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 3 to 8 p.m. No deliveries between 2 and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.	
D-M Child Development Center	228-3336
Mon. - Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	
Community Center	228-3717
Mon. - Thurs. 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri. 7 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Sat. noon to 1 a.m.; Sun. noon to 6 p.m.; Day before a holiday (weekday) 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. (weekend) noon to 1 a.m.; Holidays noon to 6 p.m.	
Desert Inn Dining Facility	228-5501
Mon. - Fri. 5:15 to 7:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Sat., Sun. and Holidays 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.	
Desert Oasis Barber Shop	748-8710
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.	
Desert Oasis Enlisted Club	228-3100
Cashier Tues. - Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Shockwave Lounge opens at 3 p.m. Wed. - Fri. Lunch Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Caterer by appointment only Tues. - Fri.	
Eagles Nest Restaurant	228-7066
Located at the Golf Course: Mon. - Fri. 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.	
Family Child Care	228-2201
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	
Finley Child Development Center	228-6463
Mon. - Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	
Fitness and Sports Center	228-0022
Mon. - Thurs. open 24 hours; Fri. 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sun. and holidays 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.	
Fitness and Sports Center Pool	228-0015
Mon. - Fri. 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	
Haefner Fitness Center	228-3714
Mon. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays	
Inn on Davis-Monthan	748-1500
Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week	
Information, Tickets & Travel	228-3700
Mon. - Tues. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wed. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	
Library	228-4381
Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	
Outdoor Recreation and Equipment Rental	228-3736
Mon. - Tues. and Thurs. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wed. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	
Outdoor Recreational Pool	228-3759
Mon. - Thurs. noon to 7 p.m.; Fri. - Sun. noon to 5 p.m.	
Paintball Range	228-3736
Sat. and Sun. 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call for weekday hours	
Stormy's Cyber Cafe	228-3717
Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.	
The Mirage Officers' Club	228-3301
The Mirage will be closed for renovations until July 2005. All lunch, cashier, catering and special evening dining has been moved to the Desert Oasis Enlisted Club. The Polly Bar will remain open 4 p.m. Thurs. and Fri.	
The Mirage Barber Shop	748-8968
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	
Veterinarian	228-3529
Subject to change: Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.	
Youth Center	228-8844
Tues. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sat. noon to 8 p.m.	

National Fine Arts Exhibit Program

The National Fine Arts Exhibit Program is run as an exhibit, not a contest. Participants receive recognition in the local exhibit by having their artwork professionally displayed. They receive additional recognition if their work is selected for judging and included in the regional and national exhibits.

Those whose artwork is submitted for consideration at the national judging receive certificates of merit. Artists who have their artwork selected for the national exhibit receive a fine arts plaque, a cash award and a letter of congratulations from the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's president.

Judging for the local Fine Arts Exhibit Program took place Jan. 11 at the D-M Youth Center.

For the Multicolor Drawing in the 9 years and under category, art by Kiana Ramos, daughter of Liza Ramos and Master Sgt. Rick Ramos, 563rd Maintenance Squadron, was selected for first and third place. Second place was Kathleen Spencer, daughter of Master Sgt. Joan Spencer, 355th Component Maintenance Squadron, and Master Sgt. Thomas Spencer, 755th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

For the Multicolor Drawing 13 to 15 year category, art by Naomi Espinoza, daughter of Mary Duncan, 755th AMXS, was selected for first and second place. Third place was



Photo by Chris Sweeney

Vicki Rogers, Youth Center School Age Program Assistant, and Rhiannon Harke, daughter of Victoria Harke, 355th Medical Operations Squadron, view drawings at an art exhibit at the D-M Youth Center Feb. 12. The exhibit is part of the National Fine Arts Exhibit Program sponsored annually by the Boys & Girls Club of America.

Stephanie Lear, daughter of Susan Lear and Senior Master Sgt. Keith Lear, 12th Air Force.

Stephanie Lear was also selected for the Monochromatic ages 13 to 15 year category.

For more information, call 228-8844.

Services Activities

Information for the Services Activities section courtesy of Chris Sweeney, 355th Services Squadron. For questions regarding this information, contact him at 228-7352.

Mardi Gras "New Awlins" Night

Get ready for a celebration as The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club and Desert Lightning Community Center host Mardi Gras "New Awlins" Night Feb. 18 at The Desert Oasis. The event will include a Mardi Gras party with prizes, food and fun for the Davis-Monthan community. Some of the entertainment includes a live band, games, food, a homemade hot sauce contest and more.

Annual Colossal Cookie Challenge

Those interested in competing in the Colossal Cookie Challenge can participate in one of four categories. Winners will be submitted to Air Combat Command for a chance to compete. Winners at the ACC level will then go on to compete at the Air Force level. Winning recipes will also be submitted for the Family Member

Programs Community Center Colossal Cookie Challenge Recipe Book. All persons eligible to use the D-M Community Center and the D-M Youth Center may participate in the challenge. Entries must be submitted for judging in only one of the following categories: holiday or special occasions (decorated cookies), no-bake cookies, healthy cookies (must contain fruit, nuts or cereal) and cookie maker's special (everything that does not fit in another category). Entries will be judged on the following: taste, appearance and creativity. Each contestant must provide a complete recipe with all ingredients, specific measurements and utensils necessary to prepare the entry. For more information, or to sign up, contact the D-M Community Center at 228-3717.

Community Center Bingo

The D-M Community Center hosts Bingo games every Tuesday. Early bird games start at 6:30 p.m. There are Bingo games, cash prizes and Jackpots from \$50 to \$1,000. Participants must be 18 years to play Tuesday Bingo. For more information, call 228-3717.